

Abstract

Catholic reform in the *Kosmografia česká* of Zikmund of Púchov

The *Kosmografia česká* appeared in Prague in 1554 as Czech version of *Cosmographia universalis* by Sebastian Münster. It was on king Ferdinand I.'s recommendation in the connection with the talks on solution of religious situation in Czech Lands and in particular on problems of proper education tendencies effective to impede further propagation of heresy. The publishing costs bore the administrator of Prague archbishopric Jan of Púchov, while his nephew Zikmund of Púchov translated and laid out the book. This work describes publishing *Cosmography* in historical and literary context, tries to cover circumstances of its origin and their impact on the book conception too. It pays special attention to commentaries of Zikmund of Púchov in which he favoured a reform of the Christian society, disrupted by demoralization, religious disunion and threatened by Turkish expansion. Making much account of the Habsburg House's special role in the world rectification, he stressed their importance and function at the Church reformation as well as protection of Christendom against Turkish menace. He defended Ferdinand I.'s policy of strengthening the catholicism connected with centralizing and absolutist tendencies of his rule.

Keywords: early modern, Czech Lands, catholic reform, religious propaganda, Czech *Cosmography*